520.30414C55

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants:

S. KATO, et al.

Application No.:

10/796,207

Filed:

March 10, 2004

For:

VACUUM PROCESSING APPARATUS AND OPERATING

METHOD THEREFOR

Group Art Unit:

3749

Examiner:

K. O'Malley

## **AMENDMENT**

Mail Stop Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 December 28, 2004

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed July 28, 2004, please amend the above-identified application as listed in the following, and as set forth on the following pages:

Amendments to the Claims; and

Remarks are included following the amendments.